

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, April 20, 1879, with transcript

Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel (Hubbard) Bell. L Cambridge, Mass., April 20th, 1879. My darling May:

I worked over the Manuscript of my Paper last night (Saturday) cutting out — altering — and polishing the language — and this evening I commenced a letter to my father and mother — as I feel I have neglected them far too much for a dutiful son — and the result is it is now one o'clock.

In case I don't have a chance of writing again before Monday night — I pen this brief note.

I have been very much troubled since returning to Boston by the persistence of disagreeable sensations — and have been resting in a recumbent position as much as possible yesterday and to-day.

I think the irritation is simply the result of travelling in the cars — and I am sure there is no reason to fear the return of anything worse. I am sorry I left Dr. Johnson's prescription behind me. I leave for New York Tuesday night and intend going by water — for a change.

I can neither answer your letter tonight nor give you an account of my theory of (?) i. e. my theory of the formation and growth of language by natural selection!

Good night.

Your loving husband, Alec.